

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 04891 241409Z

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1932

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 4891

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

EXDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, TH

SUBJ: FY 1975 APPROPRIATION

REF : STATE 65456

FOR ERNST S/NM FROM AMBASSADOR VANCE - EYES ONLY

1. WITHOUT OVER PLAYING OUR HAND SUGGEST YOU DISCREETLY EXPLORE FEASIBILITY OF ATTEMPTING TO RESTORE PROPOSED CUT DURING FLOOR DEBATES OF FULL HOUSE AND SENATE.
2. OUR EARLIER ARGUMENTS ON THE NEED FOR FLEXIBILITY COULD BE STRENGTHENED BY ASSURING CONGRESS THAT WE WOULD CONTINUE TO USE FLEXIBILITY IN A HIGHLY PRUDENT AND RESPONSIBLE MANNER. GIVEN THE UNIQUENESS OF OUR PROGRAM, WE MUST BE PREPARED TO RESPOND EFFECTIVELY TO NEW OPPORTUNITIES AS THEY ARISE. YET WE HAVE NO INTENTION OF COMMITTING FUNDS FOR THE PURPOSE OF REACHING ARBITRARILY SET OBLIGATION TARGETS. AS IN FY 1974, WE WOULD USE FUNDS ONLY FOR THE ATTAINMENT OF U.S. INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL OBJECTIVES. IF A PORTION OF THESE FUNDS ARE NOT REQUIRED, THEY WOULD BE LEFT AVAILABLE FOR FUTURE YEAR REQUIREMENTS.
3. IF REFTTEL CORRECT, PROPOSED CUT IS MOST DISAPPOINTING IN THAT IT NOT ONLY REDUCES FLEXIBILITY TO MEET UNFORSEEN
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OPPORTUNITIES (SUCH AS FY 1974 BURMA INITIATIVES), IT ALSO

REQUIRES DELAY IN IMPLEMENTING CLEARLY PLANNED PROGRAMS, E.G.
FY75 EQUIPMENT TRANCHE FOR BURMA.

4. FOR FY 76 CONGRESSIONAL PRESENTATION, WE AGREE THAT IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT WE BE FULLY PREPARED TO ADDRESS SPECIFIC CONCERNS RAISED IN SAC REPORT. I AM PARTICULARLY CONCERNED THAT WE HAVE A FULL AND SOUND JUSTIFICATION FOR VEHICLE PROCUREMENT PROGRAMS. AGREE THAT ALL APPROPRIATE POSTS BE APPRISED OF SAC REPORT AND, IF S/NM ANALYSIS INDICATES INADEQUACY OF SUPPORTING DATA IN NCAPS AND SEMI-ANNUAL REPORTS, EACH POST BE REQUESTED TO PROVIDE SUPPLEMENTARY JUSTIFICATIONS. PRIOR TO DEPARTURE FOR EA CONFERENCE, COHEN REQUESTED AID (FRAN PERRY) TO UP-DATE WORLD-WIDE EQUIPMENT LIST. THIS SHOULD BE COMPLETED ASAP. ALSO MATERIAL SHOULD BE REVIEWED TO ASSURE THAT WE CAN ANSWER SAC QUESTIONS ON HOST-COUNTRY CONTRIBUTIONS WHICH DO NOT NECESSARILY HAVE TO TAKE FORM OF FINANCIAL OR VEHICLE INPUTS TO BE SIGNIFICANT.
MASTERS

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